

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (original): An air conditioner device, comprising:

a housing;

an emitter electrode, disposed in said housing;

a collector electrode, removably disposed in said housing; and

means associated with said collector electrode for frictionally cleaning said emitter electrode when said collector electrode is manually removed from said housing and when said collector electrode is returned to said housing.

Claim 9 (original): The device of claim 8, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a length of flexible insulating material having a first end connected with said collector electrode and a second end that extends toward said emitter electrode.

Claim 10 (original): The device of claim 9, wherein said length of flexible insulating material comprises a strip or a sheet of flexible insulating material.

Claim 11 (original): The device of claim 10, wherein said length of flexible insulating material scrapes against at least a portion of said emitter electrode when said collector electrode is removed from and returned to said housing.

Claim 12 (original): The device of claim 8, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a length of flexible insulating material that moves when said collector electrode moves, and wherein said length of flexible insulating material scrapes against at least a portion of said emitter electrode when said collector is moved.

Claim 13 (original): The device of claim 12, wherein said length of flexible insulating material comprises a strip or a sheet of flexible insulating material.

Claim 14 (original): An air conditioner device, comprising:
a housing;
an emitter electrode, disposed in said housing;
a collector electrode, movably disposed in said housing; and
means associated with said collector electrode for frictionally cleaning said emitter electrode when said collector electrode is moved relative to said housing.

Claim 15 (original): The device of claim 14, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a length of flexible insulating material.

Claim 16 (original): The device of claim 14, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a length of material.

Claim 17 (original): The device of claim 16, wherein said length of material is sufficiently long to span the distance between said emitter electrode and said collector electrode.

Claim 18 (previously presented): An air treatment apparatus comprising:
a housing;
an emitter electrode configured to be supported by the housing;
a collector electrode configured to be supported by the housing, the collector electrode being movable between a first position and a second position relative to the housing;
a cleaning element having an inner wall defining an opening sized to receive a portion of the emitter electrode such that the inner wall is at least partially in contact with the emitter electrode;
an arm configured to operatively connect the cleaning element to the collector electrode, the arm being operable to cause the cleaning element to move relative to the emitter electrode during the movement of the collector electrode, the inner wall cleaning the emitter electrode during the movement; and
a voltage generator supported by said housing, the voltage generator being operable to provide a potential difference between said emitter electrode and said collector electrode.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein said cleaning element is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a length of material defining a slit; (b) a structure defining a substantially circular opening; and (c) a bead.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 19, wherein said cleaning element has insulating material.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 19, wherein said cleaning element is configured to frictionally clean said emitter electrode.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 19, wherein said cleaning element has a flexible characteristic.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein the emitter electrode is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a rectangular-shaped electrode; (b) a wire-shaped electrode; and (c) a circular-shaped electrode.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein the collector electrode is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a rectangular-shaped electrode; (b) a wire-shaped electrode; and (c) a circular-shaped electrode.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein the collector electrode is configured to be removable from said housing.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein the inner wall is configured to clean the emitter electrode by scraping against at least a portion of said emitter electrode.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The air treatment apparatus of claim 25, wherein said collector electrode is operatively coupled to a handle.

Claim 28 (original): An air conditioner device, comprising:
a housing;

an emitter electrode, disposed in said housing such that said emitter electrode is stationary within said housing;

a collector electrode, removably disposed in said housing such that said collector electrode can be manually removed from said housing and then returned to a resting position in said housing;

a high voltage generator disposed in said housing, to provide a potential difference between said emitter electrode and said collector electrode when said collector electrode is in the resting position in said housing; a member connected to said collector electrode; and

a flexible length extending from said member toward said emitter electrode; wherein flexible length scrapes against at least a portion of said emitter electrode as said collector is manually removed from and returned to said housing, to thereby clean said emitter electrode.

Claim 29 (original): The device of claim 28, further comprising a handle to assist a user in manually removing and returning said collector electrode.

Claim 30 (original): The device of claim 29, further comprising a vane projecting from an interior region of said housing such that said vane contacts said length and urges said length upward and away from said emitter electrode when said collector electrode is in the resting position in said housing.

Claim 31 (original): The device of claim 30, wherein said length disengages from contact with said vane, and scrapes against at least a portion of said emitter electrode, soon after said collector electrode is lifted from the resting position, in the process of being removed from said housing.

Claim 32 (original): An air conditioner device, comprising:

a housing;

an emitter electrode, disposed in said housing such that said emitter electrode is stationary within said housing;

a collector electrode, movably disposed in said housing such that said collector electrode can be moved from and then returned to a resting position in said housing;

a high voltage generator disposed in said housing, to provide a high voltage potential to said collector electrode when said collector electrode is in the resting position;

a member connected to said collector electrode; and

a flexible length extending from said member toward said emitter electrode; wherein flexible length scrapes against at least a portion of said emitter electrode as said collector is moved relative to said housing, to thereby clean said emitter electrode.

Claim 33 (original): An air conditioner device, comprising:

an upstanding, elongated housing;

an ion generating unit positioned in said housing, including: an emitter electrode; a movable collector electrode, elongated along the direction of elongation of said housing; and

a user-liftable handle secured to said movable collector electrode, said handle accessible through an opening in a top portion of said housing, to assist a user with lifting said collector electrode from a resting position within said housing; and

a cleaning member associated with said collector electrode, wherein said cleaning member frictionally clean said emitter electrode when said collector is lifted using said handle.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The air conditioner device of claim 33, wherein said cleaning member has an insulating material

Claim 35 (previously presented): The air conditioner device of claim 33, including an arm configured to operatively couple the cleaning member to the collector electrode.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The air conditioner device of claim 35, wherein said cleaning member is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a length of material defining an opening; (b) a length of material defining a slit; (c) a structure defining an opening; (d) a structure defining a substantially circular opening; and (e) a bead defining an opening.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The air conditioner device of claim 33, wherein the collector electrode is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a rectangular-shaped electrode; (b) a wire-shaped electrode; and (c) a circular-shaped electrode.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The air conditioner device of claim 33, wherein the emitter electrode is selected from the group consisting of: (a) a rectangular-shaped electrode; (b) a wire-shaped electrode; and (c) a circular-shaped electrode.